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TRANSMITTAL LETTER (General - Patent Pending)

Docket No. 161765.00520 (PC27498)

Rathone, et. al.

Application No. Filing Date Examiner Customer No. Group Art Unit Confirmation No.

10/646,798 August 25, 2003 Satyanarayan Gudibande 26648 1654 3621

Title: Method for the Preparation of Growth Hormone and Antagonist Thereof Having to Lower Levels of Isoform Impurities Thereof

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

Certificate of Mailing, Response to Restriction Requirement, Petition for Extension of Time, and Return Postcard

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Dated: September 29, 2005

S. Christopher Bauer 42,305

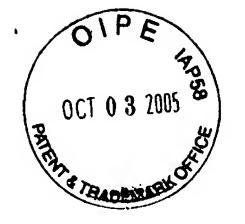
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September 29, 2005

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Linda Haley

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence



PATENT

Case: 161765.00520 (PC27498)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Rathone, et al. | GROUP ART UNIT: 1654

SERIAL NO: 10/646,798 | EXAMINER: Satyanarayan

Gudibande

FILED: August 25, 2003 | DATE: September 29, 2005

TITLE: METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF GROWTH HORMONE AND

ANTAGONISTS THEREOF HAVING LOWER LEVELS OF ISOFORM

IMPURITIES THEREOF

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner of Patents
P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 29, 2005 by Linda Haley

July Haley Date: September 29, 2005

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner of Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is in response to the June 29, 2005 Office Action, having a Shortened Statutory Period for Reply set to expire on July 19, 2005. A two-month Extension of Time to September 29, 2005 is hereby requested.

The Examiner required restriction to one of three distinct inventions as indicated in the Office Action.

Applicants respectfully traverse the requirement for restriction of the claims into three Groups. As stated in MPEP §803.01, "[t]here are two criteria for a proper restriction requirement for restriction between patentably distinct inventions: (A) The inventions must be independent ... or distinct as claimed ...; and (B) There must be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is required ... " (emphasis added). Each of the three proposed Groups of claims have been classified in the same class, Class 530. Because election of any of the three proposed Groups requires the Examiner

to search the same class and subclasses, it would not be a serious burden for the

Examiner to also search this class and subclasses with respect to all of the claims.

Additionally, the Examiner's argues that Groups I and II are unrelated because in claim

75 of Group II requires that both a mercapto compound (Group I) and a chelating agent

(Group II) are not to be used together. However, to be unrelated it must be shown that

the inventions are 1) not capable of use together and they 2) have different modes of

operation, different functions, or different effects. Both of these requirements must be

fulfilled before it can be argued that the inventions are unrelated. The fact that claim

75 restricts the purification to not include a mercapto compound does not establish that

the inventions is incapable of use together. To the contrary dependent claim 75 merely

presents a situation where they are not used together. Furthermore, the Examiner has

failed to establish that the inventions have different modes of operation, different

functions, or different effects, which is also required. The Examiner argues that Group

I and III are unrelated because Group III has a separate utility. Similarly, as set forth,

above, the Examiner has not shown that the inventions are not capable of use together

and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects.

The fact the invention III may have an additional utility does not make them incapable

of use together. Therefore it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has failed to

establish that the inventions are unrelated.

Nevertheless, to comply with 37 CFR 1.143, Applicants elect the invention of

Group I (claims 1-68).

Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional or continuation

applications directed to unelected subject matter.

Applicants submit that the present invention is now in condition for allowance.

Early allowance of all pending claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted.

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